

June 27, 2018

Lilly Wall City of Chehalis

Re: Recreation Conservation Office, Grant Matching Funds

Dear Lilly,

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the Chehalis Foundation supports the Recreation Park Renovation Project that includes upgrades to the existing ballfields and replacement of the Penny Playground.

The Chehalis Foundation has dedicated \$400,000 towards ballfield improvements and \$100,000 towards the replacement of the Penny Playground. We understand the \$500,000 donation will be used to fulfill matching grant requirements.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at 360-748-8733.

Sincerely,

Tim Sayler

President, Chehalis Foundation

June 27, 2018



Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office 1111 Washington Street S.E. Olympia, WA 98501

To Whom It May Concern:

The Chehalis Foundation was formed in 2002 as a 501 ©3 non-profit organization to 'lessen the burdens' of the city, recognizing that local government often does not have the financial resources to support projects and/or maintain what might be considered non-essential services.

Since its inception the Foundation has, among other things, raised funds to assist the City of Chehalis to renovate and reopen the Robert Lintott/Alexander Park, the Kiddy Spray Pool and the Gail and Carolyn Shaw Aquatics Center.

The Shaw Aquatics Center renovation project that was partially funded by RCO grants was a tremendous accomplishment turning an old worn out pool into a state of the art, outstanding aquatics center. The project inspired the city, the Chehalis Foundation and the community to work towards upgrading the rest of Recreation Park to the standard of the aquatics center, focusing on the ballfields, playground and walkways through and around the park creating a trail system.

The ballfields located at Recreation Park is the home of our high school fastpitch program, a youth fastpitch league and youth fastpitch tournaments. This facility accommodates thousands of players and spectators every season. This facility needs to be upgraded concentrating on the drainage and irrigation systems. During inclement weather the fields rain out consistently due to poor drainage. During sunny weather the infields are dry and dusty and the grass in the ballfields and park areas become dry and brown due to constant breaks in the irrigation system.

The beloved Penny Playground is a 25-year-old wooden structure that is considered a community treasure but has outlived its life expectancy. This playground is used year-round serving Chehalis, Lewis County and many of the players and spectators from tournaments and participants of the Shaw Aquatics Center. The new playground will be designed to be inclusive, accessible, interactive, provide good visibility of children at play, include perimeter fencing and LED lighting.

Through fundraising efforts, the Chehalis Foundation has dedicated \$400,000 towards ballfield improvements and \$100,000 towards the replacement of the Penny Playground. We understand the \$500,000 donation will be used to fulfill matching grant requirements.

We are very excited about this project and the opportunity to receive an RCO grant. Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

Tim Sayler

President, Chehalis Foundation

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office 1111 Washington Street S.E. Olympia, WA 98501

To Whom It May Concern:

The Chehalis Girls Fastpitch Association is a non-profit volunteer organization that organizes the youth fastpitch program offered to girls 5 to 18 years old. Our league plays cross-over games with the Centralia Girls Fastpitch Association providing a softball league for approximately 400 youth on an annual basis.

We whole heartedly support the proposed ballfield renovation project at Recreation Park. The ballfields are the home fields for the high school fastpitch program, our youth fastpitch league and youth fastpitch tournaments. This facility accommodates thousands of players and spectators every season. The ballfields are in dire need of improvements with the drainage and irrigation systems being the priority. During inclement weather the fields rain out on a regular basis due to poor drainage and during sunny weather the infields get dry and dusty. The grass in the park becomes dry and brown due to a non-working irrigation system

The ballfields are a very important part of youth athletics in Chehalis and has traditionally been a desirable location for teams from across Washington State to travel to and participate in the weekend tournaments hosted here. In the past couple of years there has been a large drop in teams attending our tournaments. This is due to unpredictable fields and games being rained out. The park needs to be improved to make it safe and the fields playable on a more consistent basis.

We are very excited about this project and hope this project is seriously considered for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Josh Whaley

President, Chehalis Girls Fastpitch Association



Washington State Recreation Conservation Office 111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98501

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Chehalis School District to express our support for the City of Chehalis and their request for funding for the Recreation Park Renovation Project. This project will benefit the Chehalis School District and our students in many ways.

The project includes:

The Recreation Park Fastpitch Complex is the home fields for our high school fastpitch teams and the recreational teams which are a feeder program to the high school program.

- Upgrade drainage, irrigation
- Removal of existing sod in out fields, add 8 inches of root zone sand to outfields and seed, 2 inches of top soil to infields and fine grade the entire facility
- New bull pens
- ADA Accessible walkways with pedestrian lighting

Penny Playground is used for Chehalis School District end of the year field trips for the elementary schools – Chehalis school district residents as well as county children use the playground year round.

- Build an inclusive and accessible playground; addresses wheelchair accessibility, sensory, hearing, vision and mobility issues.
- Provides a design for good visibility of children
- Include a walking track around the inside perimeter of the playground
- Includes perimeter fencing, LED lighting
- Interactive playground that has components that meet the needs of pre-school through senior citizens, including a walking path around the perimeter for adults
- Include community build element to project
- A destination playground, a place not only community members enjoy but a place that attracts users from outside the local area

Please give this proposal your full attention. The Chehalis School District is committed to and supports the City of Chehalis grant request. We urge you to invest in our community.

Sincerely,

Ed Rothlin, Superintendent Chehalis School District



July 10, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

The purpose of this letter is to offer the support of The Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce for the City of Chehalis and their application for funding of the Recreation Park Renovation Project.

Over the years we have been reminded repeatedly how important parks, pools, ball fields, and other community centers are when recruiting businesses to locate to our area. Business owners and managers want to know that their families and their employees' families will be able to enjoy a high quality of life in the community where they are making an investment.

This park is truly an asset to our community that we can't afford to neglect. The City of Chehalis has done an excellent job maintaining the aging facilities but now a major upgrade is due at a time when the City doesn't have funds available for major expenses such as this. We hope you will give a favorable nod to the grant request being presented by the City of Chehalis for the Recreation Park renovation and upgrade.

We, the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce endorse this project being presented by the City of Chehalis.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ilicia M.Bull

Centralia/Chehalis Chamber of Commerce Executive Director,

Alicia N. Bull

Chehalis, WA 98532